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## Fundraising Survey Gets Results

Operations Committee

The donation and fundraising survey results were recently reviewed by Operations. There is a “donate more/fundraise less” feeling amongst our parents.

Therefore we are increasing the requested donation from \$150 to \$200 per child (for the 2004-2005 school year).

This is a parent participation program – we are striving for

100% participation in donations. Based on information from the survey, we realize that \$200 may be high for some of you. Please do not entirely opt out of the donation drive if this is true. Any amount would be appreciated. Please don’t hesitate to contact an Operations team member (Jenny Murray, Elaine Spence, or your classroom room rep) if you have questions about the budget.

Our fundraising efforts will continue to be community-building. “Make a Plate” received a lot of support in our survey and Fresh Choice coupons were also popular – these will continue. PTA fundraisers – such as Walkathon and cookie dough sales – are school-wide and will continue, though children will no longer miss class time for “sales” assemblies!

## Treasurer’s Report

Janice Soderberg

We have met our goal for the donation drive. Our final fundraisers will be a Klutz Press fundraiser on Saturday, May 8, where 101% of the sales will go to PACT, and a night at Country Gourmet in Mtn View on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday May 20, with 50% of the proceeds going to PACT.

**THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DONATED!**

### Income

Event	Projected	Actual
Donation Drive	\$18,500	\$18,759
PTA funds	\$2,550	1,740
Other events*	\$2,300	\$2,113
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$23,350</b>	<b>\$22,612</b>

\*Make a Plate, coupon books, bake sale, user study, Klutz press sale

Donations can be mailed to PACT Donation Drive, c/o J. Soderberg, 219 Loreto St, Mtn View, 94041 or placed in the PACT drawer in the teacher’s lounge.

## Arts Focus

Baird Nuckolls

With the successful completion of our third session, we are almost through with Arts Focus this year. The final event will be the Exhibition at Mountain View City Hall, which runs from May 21st to June 4th. You will get more information as the time gets closer.

I would like to thank all of the PACT teachers, the Slateradministration, the guest artists and most espe-

cially, all the parent volunteers that made Arts Focus such a wonderful program this year. They include Stephanie Oberhauser, Sarah Lundgren, Peter Monaco, Jane Horton, Patricia Martin, Dave Murphy, Dave Hurwit, Dawn Walker, Trish Tharp, Yvonne Wilson, Elisabeth Luu, Tracy Wingrove, Letitia Waters, ShawnDescourouez, Jane Johnson, Trish and Tom Morgan, Liza

Levin, Shell D’Augusta, Sandy and Jerry Ogaz, Elise Politzer, Celia Arruda, Andy Muonio, LeAnne Wilson, ElaineSpence, Bill Wells, Sandy Bartlett, Paula Dispoto, Kismet Coons, JuliePerry, Linda Allen, Kobe Bruce, Kathy and Jarl Nilsson, Cathy Gomez, Armando Lagunas, Robin Yurash, Mila Skvortsova, Amanda Kelly, DianaMedina, Sue Rosen, Marjorie Lefkowitz, Kelly

## Room 6

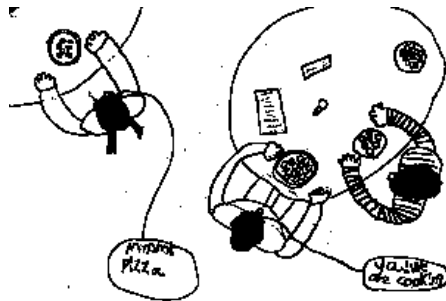
Paulina Monaco

Science in Mrs. Jensen's class has enjoyed a burst of activity in the last few months. Kinders and first graders are learning how to conduct research as they study and compare animals. For a unit on penguins, students spent great efforts gathering and organizing information, and sharing their facts with the class for their reports. They are even learning how to use Venn diagrams. Sandy Bartlett conducted an art class on pastels and water colors to help them illustrate their penguins. Next on the list to study: sea otters, guppies and goldfish.

At the beginning of the year, students and parents in Mrs. Jensen's class stepped up to 100 Book Challenge. To date, six students have met their 100 book goal and are charging toward 200. More kids are joining the ranks weekly. On the writing side, six "authors" made it to press, and are reveling in the satisfaction of being "published." Either working in partnership or solo, these kids are developing original stories, working with their "editor" (Mrs. Jensen), rewriting, reworking, and illustrating final copies, which are then

bound and put on display in the class library.

In the garden, students in Room 6 are enjoying the fruits of their labors, or in this case, the vegetables of their labors. After harvest time, Jeanne Desai, Master Gardener, brought in a large bowl, a knife, some tongs, and a little dressing and helped the kids prepare a wonderful salad for all to enjoy. Included in the mix of home-growns were two kinds of lettuce, carrots, radishes, edible leaves and flowers. It was definitely a highlight and a bit of an eye-opener to see first-hand where food actually comes from.



By Mike Densmore, Rm. 8

## Room 2

Kismet Coons

Spring has definitely sprung in Room 2. Every Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Kym with Mrs. Paula's help has been busy helping all our gardeners with the watering, planting, observing and then writing about their experiences in their Garden Journals. On Monday mornings Mrs. Debbie works the first graders through a rigorous physical education workout, followed by time she gives to the kinders after morning recess. Mr. Chris came this week and taught every child how to break away if a stranger was to grab them.

Mrs. Jenny, Mrs. Leann and Mrs. Kismet have been giving our students extra time and attention with all aspects of their learning. Many parents come early or extra days to help with lunchtime. Mrs. Val (or Mr. Roger), Mrs. Sandy, Mrs. Jenny, Mrs. Angelique or Mr. Hasein have been working with the first graders in the mornings with many exciting literacy and math experiences.

Mrs. Angelique has taken over all aspects of our field trips. Mrs. Diane prepares the materials outside of class and then works with small groups of students once a week

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## Room 3

Alice Householder

Red Book Bag books are for parents to read to their children; now the children have books to read to their parents. Each week, students choose a book from the Room 3 library that they can read themselves. They take it home in their "Green Leveled Book" folder and record in the book log each time they read the book to a family member or friend. It's so much fun that some students ask for new books before the week is up!

Room 3 students have made wonderful progress with their kid-writing. The

kinders are writing more independently, and the first graders are using more complex sentences as they construct paragraphs for their weekly Key Word stories.

The science parents are leading the class in a study of air and weather. Each day, a new class meteorologist reports the weather. Students have explored rain and clouds and will soon begin some interesting experiments with air. In geometry, the children are learning terms for and properties of different shapes. The math parents have

begun a study of decomposing and recomposing 2- and 3-dimensional shapes. For geography, the students have begun to study the states and physical features with Eva Sachen. They combined the two by using play dough to create topographical features on a map of California.

Under Dawn Walker's direction, the children are enthusiastically preparing two plays for performances April 13 & 14: *Peter Pan* (1st graders) and *Peter and the Wolf* (kindergarteners). With help from some very creative parents, the kids have painted scenery, fashioned props and made costumes.

# Classroom News

## Room 8

Janice Densmore

This year, I have the privilege of leading the cooking in the classroom activities for Mrs. Ross' second and third graders. We have set aside class time in order to do one or two recipes every month and each one has focused on building different skills and integrating topics in the classroom.

Recipes at the beginning of the year placed an emphasis on learning about measurement and how accuracy can effect the outcome of your product. Water, food color and simple ingredients were used to make 'potions' such as Slater Gator Juice and Purple Fizz. The liquids were mixed into clear cups and the kids held the cups side by side to see how their results compared. Note: an extra teaspoon of baking soda really puts the fizz in Purple Fizz!

Once the basics were mastered, the next set of recipes focused on teamwork. Working in pairs and small groups, the children were asked to evenly divide responsibilities, share in decision making and create a product in conjunction with their classmates. Teams successfully made apple crisp, biscuits and a hot chocolate mix that



By Zoe Morgan, Rm. 8

was wrapped in cloth pouches and given as gifts at the holidays.

Later cooking projects have tied in with other classroom activities and have emphasized following a complex set of instructions. After reading a story that took place in New York, the class made their own New York style pizza and in preparation for Valentine's Day, the group made heart shaped pretzels to bring to the class party. One of the most rewarding projects has partnered with gardening activities. As the class crop of lettuce was harvested, the cooks made different recipes of French and ranch salad dressing and the children then had the opportunity to taste a product that they had grown, nurtured and cooked for themselves.

Each cooking project has been a fun and interesting learning experience and I look forward to working with the 'chefs' in room 8 throughout the year.

## Room 12

Room 12 celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a Green Lunch. Many parents contributed green foods ranging from edamame to green jello jigglers. Each kid promised to sample two new foods that day. Entertainment was provided by the children who played various tunes, such as Ode to Joy, on their recorders. Colleen Peterson has been teaching them to play the recorder all year long to great success.

As spring brings our gardens and insects back to life, the children are studying insects and life cycles. The classroom is hosting several live insect specimens in various stages. This science unit is integrated into other areas: writing in science journals, reading bug literature, and art. Visit the classroom next week to see

## Room 2

cont'd from pg. 2

on handwriting. Many of our wonderful parents have driven us recently to the 'People Like Me' show. We have grandparents helping, as well, with one grandmother helping in the classroom every week.

We finished our Fabrics unit with Mrs. Marjorie being the lead teacher and other parents helping. Now we are studying Animals 2X2 -- ask our children about our fish mortality rate!! Mrs. Lisa is planning a Scottish Celebration in our class and Ciara's entire family came to share about Ireland on St. Patrick's Day. Mrs. Sandy provided several great craft experiences, as did, Mrs. Kismet. Mrs. Nancy is now taking over for Mrs. Lanita [it is a baby boy] by taking the first graders to music. Wow! What great parents in Room 2! Thank you!!!! Happy Spring to All!!!



Mary Campione

the children's 3D bug creations, each complete with head, thorax, and abdomen.

The classroom visited Fallon House in March and learned about how people lived in the Victorian area. As a follow-up, the children split into groups and gave presentations about various facts of Victorian life such as clothing, games, and schools. The kids attended a terrific musical performance of *Miss Nelson is Missing* and afterward, were treated to having lunch at Mrs. P's house. Every moment must be a learning moment so the kids studied the blueprints of Mrs P's remodel, learned about scale drawings, learned about the various professions needed for remodel projects, and toured the house. The kids were delighted.

Science, math and language arts have been taking center stage in Room 24 lately.

In Science the kids are fleshing out their ocean study work by experiments such as comparing the strength of land plants (e.g., banana and spinach leaves) to kelp blades (leaves). They suspended a plastic jug from the leaf and filled the jug with water to determine how much weight it can hold (the kelp wins!). They've also made 3-D models of kelp and explored pinnipeds (aka seals) to assess how these animals have adapted to their environments. Great thanks to parent Sylvia Davidson for finding or making materials for all these hands-on experiments. Scientific skills such as observation, documentation and debate have also been reinforced in the garden as the kids have examined composting (including worm composting).

In Math, the children are getting lots of individual attention and tutoring thanks to RD Desai, Kathy Welsh, and Liz Huff. Social studies has focused on Colonial America with the kids learning about Jamestown, the lost colony of Roanoke and a field trip to Bubb school to experience "WilliamsBubb"

Language Arts: In their Author's Study projects they're observing and imitating that's author's literary techniques (e.g., similes, metaphors, personification, foreshadowing) in addition to reading and discussing the books. They've also completed a 5 paragraph essay project about explorers and are now working on a 15 paragraph research paper.

And keeping with the 'stage' theme, the animation project led by parent Karen Leonard has progressed nicely. She has skillfully (and with a great sense of humor) guided the children through the art of creating animation. They have made zoetropes, done clay animation, and are currently working on a movie in which each child has created a section.

Also on stage were two of our students: Susannah and Elizabeth in "Once Upon A Mattress". The class took the light rail to see them perform at the MV Performing Arts Center.

Lastly, Mrs. Malouf was treated to a completely kid-generated surprise party just to say "thank you!" and "happy birthday!"

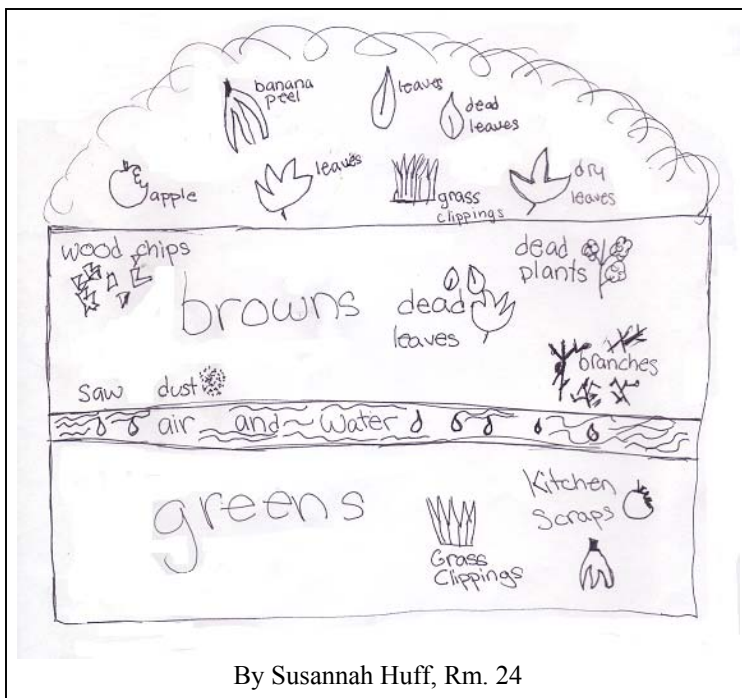
**The PACT Newsletter is published four times each school year. Questions ,comments and suggestions for future editions should be directed to Trish Morgan (trish.morgan@comcast.net) OR Janice Densmore (IMZD@aol.com).**

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Arts Focus (con'td from p.

Lazkani, Delyna Reil, Stacey Mason, Lorien French, Lisa Salinero, Kathleen Bransfield, LizHuff, Myra Gishi, Veronica Geier, Jeanne Desai, Gloria Higgins, HeatherMcDonald, Eric Soderberg, Carolyn Sunseri and anyone else whovolunteered for some or all of the classes, including Mr. A's mom. If Ihave missed anyone, my apologies. As Chairman, I am looking forward toward next year and the future and would love to talk to any parents who are considering volunteering with us next year.

*Submit your art or poetry or doodles or what-have-you for the next PACT Newsletter!*





**Need a responsible babysitter?**  
 Call Olivia Westmoreland  
 PACT Class of 2000  
 650-996-2566 (cell)  
 650-967-1958 (home)